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Miller to coach and wrestle

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MILLER TO COACH
AND WRESTLE

fultz/le
11-3-71
sports one



sports

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One might accuse Larry Miller, the University of Montana's new wrestling coach, of having an ace up his sleeve for the upcoming season. The ace is in the form of an undefeated Big Sky wrestling champion who returns after a one year absence. Yes, the biggest asset Larry Miller, the coach, has is Larry Miller the wrestler and one-time football star.

Miller, who came to the University of Montana as a standout football player from Grays Harbor Junior College, Aberdeen, Wash., is currently working toward his bachelors degree in health and physical education. He has a lengthy success record in wrestling. In high school he was Northern California heavyweight champion and Senior Regional AAU Champion, a title he won again his first year at Grays Harbor.

Upon coming to UM Miller quickly established himself as a starting defensive tackle and won postseason honors both years. He was named to the All-Big Sky team in 1969 and 1970. Miller was also third team small college All-American both those seasons.

Following the Camellia Bowl in 1969, Miller turned his talents to wrestling. He was an instant success, winning all 16 of his matches and pinning 14 of his opponents.

In 1970 Montana again went to the Camellia Bowl and feeling the late start would not allow him time to get into proper condition, Miller chose to save his year of eligibility for the 1971-72 season.

This fall he has been mixing his studies in with assisting coaching of the Montana freshman football team and preparatory conditioning for the wrestling season.

The Montana grapplers begin official workouts Nov. 8 at the Missoula Sentinel Gymnasium. The move is necessitated by the construction work presently going on at the UM Fieldhouse. Workouts will be in the evenings in order to avoid conflict with activities at the high school.

Jug Beck, Sentinel wrestling coach, made the move possible, according to Miller.

Bill Gilboe, a former Grizzly wrestler, is helping Miller coach his charges. "He is lots of help. He keeps me on my toes. It's hard to be a coach and to coach yourself at the same time. Bill pushes me," Miller said.

On the Montana roster are three grapplers who competed in last season's Big Sky Conference meet. They are Tom Collins, Pat Cheney and Mike Martinsen. Montana failed to score in the meet. Martinsen scored in the 1970 conference championships by placing third in his weight division.

The remainder of the roster consists of former high school wrestlers with little or no college experience. Six are freshmen. The six freshmen include three from Malta, Keith Maristeun, Larry Young, and Kevin Salsberry, and two from Missoula, Mike Koeppen and Roy Bradley. A sixth freshman, Bill Coburn, is from Deadwood, South Dakota.

Of five sophomores on the roster, two are from Great Falls--Jay Swarthout and Gary Ehnes. Terry Cottier, Missoula, Tom Collins of Lolo, and Don Householder of Hall are the other sophomores. Martinsen is from Hardin and is the only junior. Cheney is from Washington, D.C. and is a senior.

Miller looks for Idaho State to repeat as conference champions with Weber State also to be strong. "They have a funding advantage," the Montana coach said.

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UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA WRESTLING 1971-1972

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Dec. 3,4	Montana State Tournament	Bozeman
Dec. 10	Western Montana Quadrangular	Dillon
Dec. 11	MONTANA TECH (dual)	MISSOULA
Dec. 15	Western Montana (dual)	Dillon
Christmas break...Individuals work out on their own.		
Jan. 8	ROCKY MOUNTAIN (dual)	MISSOULA
Jan. 10	WESTERN MONTANA (dual)	MISSOULA
Jan. 15	Weber State (dual at 1:30 p.m.)	Ogden, Utah
	Utah State (dual at 7:30 p.m.)	Logan, Utah
Jan. 22	Montana Tech (dual)	Butte
Feb. 5	Montana State Quadrangular	Bozeman
Feb. 12	Idaho (dual)	Moscow, Idaho
Feb. 19	MONTANA STATE (dual)	MISSOULA
Feb. 23	IDAHO (dual)	MISSOULA
Mar. 2,3	Big Sky Conference Championships	Pocatello, Idaho
Mar. 9-11	NCAA Finals	

ROSTER

Keith Maristuen	126 lbs.	Freshman	Malta
Jay Swarthout	134 lbs.	Sophomore	Great Falls
Pat Cheney	134 lbs.	Senior	Washington, D.C.
Bill Coburn	142 lbs.	Freshman	Deadwood, S.D.
Tom Collins	142 lbs.	Sophomore	Lolo
Gary Ehnes	142 lbs.	Sophomore	Great Falls
Mike Martinsen	150 lbs.	Junior	Hardin
Larry Young	158 lbs.	Freshman	Malta
Terry Cottier	167 lbs.	Sophomore	Missoula
Kevin Salsberry	167 lbs.	Freshman	Malta
Mike Koeppen	177 lbs.	Freshman	Missoula
Roy Bradley	191 lbs.	Freshman	Missoula
Don Householder	Hvwt.	Sophomore	Hall
Larry Miller	Hvwt.	Senior	Martinez, California